

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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APPROVED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY
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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 015728 TOSEC 010107

NODIS
CHEROKEE FOR THE SECRETARY FROM CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS), PFOR

SUBJECT: EVENING READING

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S EVENING READING FOR
THURSDAY, JANUARY 19:

1. MIDDLE EAST. WE HAVE BRIEFED THE LEADERSHIP AND OTHER
KEY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ON THE RECALL OF THE EGYPTIAN
DELEGATION FROM THE JERUSALEM TALKS. MEMBERS ARE DEEPLY
CONCERNED BY THE RUPTURE, BUT HOPE THAT CY'S MEETINGS WITH
BEGIN AND SADAT WILL PERMIT RESUMPTION OF THE TALKS. WE
TOLD CONGRESS THAT THE ADMINISTRATION INTENDS TO DO EVERY-
THING POSSIBLE TO KEEP THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS GOING.
THERE WAS LITTLE INCLINATION ON THE PART OF THE MEMBERS TO
BLAME EITHER EGYPT OR ISRAEL, AND NO CRITICISM OF THE
ADMINISTRATION.

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2. SOVIET SATELLITE. WE RECEIVED SOME NEW INFORMATION
FROM DOBRYNIN LATE TODAY ON THE DESCENDING SATELLITE. I AM
ATTACHING THE NOTE HE SENT OVER AFTER WE TALKED ON THE
PHONE. IN THE COURSE OF OUR CONVERSATION, DOBRYNIN SAID
THAT THERE ARE AREAS OF THE WORLD WHERE THEY LACK TRACKING
CAPACITY AND WHERE OURS MAY BE MORE EFFECTIVE. I TOLD HIM
THAT WE WANTED TO BE FULLY COOPERATIVE AND WOULD LET HIM

KNOW OF ANY INFORMATION WE MIGHT DEVELOP CONCERNING WHERE AND WHEN FRAGMENTS MIGHT LAND.

3. RHODESIA. NKOMO AND MUGABE HAVE FINALLY RESPONDED TO DAVID OWEN'S INVITATION TO A MEETING BY SAYING THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO MEET IN MALTA ON JAN 26. WITH OUR CONCURRENCE, OWEN WILL ASK IF THEY COULD BEGIN THE MEETING A FEW DAYS LATER ON JANUARY 30. WHILE IT IS NOT CERTAIN NKOMO AND MUGABE ARE READY TO ACCEPT OUR PROPOSALS AS A BASIS FOR SETTLEMENT, MOVING FORWARD WITH THE MALTA TALKS WILL PUT US IN A BETTER POSITION TO DEAL WITH AFRICAN PRESSURES AT THE UN.

DICK MOOSE MET WITH DAVID OWEN IN LONDON ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY TO COORDINATE OUR RHODESIAN STRATEGY. THE OWEN-YOUNG MEETING WITH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT IN MALTA WILL BE PRECEDED BY BRIEFINGS BY OUR AMBASSADORS IN THE FRONT LINE CAPITALS TO URGE THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS TO SECURE ACCEPTANCE BY NKOMO AND MUGABE OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN FORMULA FOR TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, ESPECIALLY ACCEPTANCE OF THE BRITISH RESIDENT COMMISSIONER. WE WILL ALSO MAKE SURE THAT THE "INTERNAL" RHODESIANS AND THE SOUTH AFRICANS ARE INFORMED OF OUR RATIONALE AND HOW WE INTEND TO PROCEED.

4. PORTUGAL. AFTER ALMOST A MONTH AND A HALF OF NEGOTIATIONS, MARIO SOARES HAS FINALLY SUCCEEDED IN PUTTING TOGETHER A NEW GOVERNMENT BASED ON HIS SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) AND THE CONSERVATIVE CENTER SOCIAL DEMOCRATS (CDS). THEY HAVE AGREED TO A GOVERNMENT PROGRAM AND A DIVISION OF CABINET POSTS. FORMAL DESIGNATION OF SOARES AS PRIME MINISTER BY PRESIDENT EANES IS EXPECTED IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO AND PARLIAMENT IS EXPECTED TO APPROVE HIS PROGRAM WITHIN TWO WEEKS. THE MODERATE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS (PSD) AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY (PCP) WILL BE IN OPPOSITION, ALTHOUGH THE COMMUNISTS MAY LATER SUPPORT THE NEW GOVERNMENT ON SOME ISSUES. ALTHOUGH THE NEW GOVERNMENT FACES SOME STAGGERING DIFFICULTIES, AND THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT IT WILL LAST THROUGH THIS SUMMER, WE BELIEVE THAT IT HAS A BETTER CHANCE THAN SOARES' PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT OF GETTING A GRIP ON PORTUGAL'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. THE MANAGERIAL TALENT OF THE CDS LEADERS SHOULD COMPLEMENT THE NATIONWIDE STRENGTH OF THE SOCIALISTS.

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5. SCHMIDT'S STATE OF THE UNION MESSAGE. IN HIS ANNUAL POLICY SPEECH TO THE PARLIAMENT TODAY, SCHMIDT WAS FRIENDLY TO THE U.S. ON POLITICAL AND SECURITY ISSUES, BUT TOOK

EXCEPTION TO OUR VIEWS ON SOME INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
POLICY ISSUES. SCHMIDT CONCEDED THAT WEST GERMANY ACHIEVED

ONLY 2.4 PERCENT REAL GROWTH LAST YEAR, BUT SAID THAT HASTY
ECONOMIC EXPANSION COULD LEAD TO A FRESH BOUT OF INFLATION.
HE WARNED THAT "SOME FOREIGNERS REGARD THE GERMAN ECONOMY
AS A LOCOMOTIVE WHICH CAN DO EVERYONE ELSE A FAVOR AND DRAG
THEM OUT OF THE RECESSION, BUT THIS IS TO OVERESTIMATE OUR
ECONOMIC STRENGTH." WHILE WELCOMING YOUR RECENT STATEMENT
ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A STRONG DOLLAR FOR THE WORLD ECON-
OMY, HE NOTED POINTEDLY THAT THE DOLLAR'S WEAKNESS HAD
HURT HIS NATION'S ECONOMY. HE SAID HE HOPED SALT II
NEGOTIATIONS CAN BE CONCLUDED BEFORE THE END OF 1978 AND
"NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THAT U.S. IS INTENSIFYING THE
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SALT CONSULTATIONS WITHIN THE ALLIANCE."

END TEXT.

6. ATTACHMENT: NOTE RECEIVED FROM DOBRYNIN, 1/19/78:

BEGIN TEXT:

"THE SMALL POWER PLANT AT THE SATELLITE 'COSMOS-954' OPER-
ATES ONLY ON URANIUM-235 FUEL. AS WE ALREADY SAID, IT IS
EXPLOSIVE-PROOF BECAUSE THE ACCUMULATION OF A CRITICAL
MASS IS RULED OUT. BESIDES THAT, THE DESIGN OF THE PLANT
PROVIDES FOR ITS DESTRUCTION AND BURNING OUT UPON ENTERING
DENSER LAYERS OF THE ATMOSPHERE.

"HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE ACCIDENT ABOARD SATELLITE IT
CANNOT BE RULED OUT THAT SOME DESTROYED PARTS OF THE PLANT
STILL WOULD REACH THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH. IN THAT CASE
AN INSIGNIFICANT LOCAL CONTAMINATION MAY OCCUR IN THE
PLACES OF IMPACT WITH EARTH WHICH WOULD REQUIRE LIMITED
USUAL MEASURES OF CLEANING UP."

END TEXT OF ATTACHMENT.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, NEGOTIATIONS, PEACE TALKS, SATELLITES, COSMOS 954, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 01/20/78
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
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